

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00
AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 EA-12 FRB-01
INR-07 NEA-10 NSAE-00 OPIC-06 SP-02 TRSE-00
LAB-04 SIL-01 AGRE-00 OMB-01 SS-15 PM-05 H-02
L-03 PA-02 PRS-01 /113 W
-----061360 271844Z /43

O R 271445Z JAN 78
FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 454
INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
RUFLEPA AMCONSUL ADANA 7476
AMCONSUL ISTANBUL
AMCONSUL ISTANBUL
AMCONSUL IZMIR
USMISSION USNATO
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES
CINCEUR
USDOCOLANDSOUTHEAST RUEKJCS
USNMR SHAPE
AMEMBASSY BONN

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USEEC, USOECD

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PEPR, TU, US, GR, CY
SUBJECT: TURKISH FOREIGN MINISTER REVIEWS FOREIGN
POLICY IN BUDGET DEBATE

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1. SUMMARY: IN DESCRIBING TURKEY'S FOREIGN POLICY TO THE
JOINT BUDGET COMMITTEE JANUARY 26, FONMIN OKCUN SAID THAT
TURKEY IS READY FOR A PACKAGE SETTLEMENT OF THE AEGEAN DISPUTE,
WHICH IS MORE IMPORTANT TO TURKISH-GREEK RELATIONS THAN CYPRUS,
AND THAT A SUMMIT MEETING BETWEEN THE TURKISH AND GREEK PRIMINS
IS NECESSARY FOR THIS. THE AEGEAN AND CYPRUS SHOULD BE TAKEN
UP SEPARATELY BUT AT THE SAME TIME. TURKEY REMAINS WILLING

TO DISCUSS REASONABLE CHANGES IN THE BOUNDARY BETWEEN THE TWO ZONES OF CYPRUS; BUT POPULATION MOVEMENTS HAVE TAKEN PLACE AND A THIRD OF THE ISLAND'S PEOPLE CANNOT BE MADE TO MIGRATE AGAIN. THE US MUST MAINTAIN EQUAL DISTANCE FROM TURKEY AND GREECE AND THEREFORE MUST LIFT THE ARMS EMBARGO AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. TURKEY WILL FULFILL ITS ALLIANCE RESPONSIBILITIES TO THE SAME EXTENT THAT ITS ALLIES SUPPORT TURKEY. END SUMMARY.

2. IN REMARKS MADE TO THE PARLIAMENTARY JOINT BUDGET COMMISSION JANUARY 26, TURKISH FONMIN GUNDUZ OKCUN DESCRIBED THE MAIN OUTLINES OF THE ECEVIT GOVERNMENT'S FOREIGN POLICY. OKCUN SAID THAT TURKEY WILL FOLLOW AN "ACTIVE AND INVOLVED" FOREIGN POLICY, TAKING INITIATIVES IN ALL NECESSARY MATTERS RATHER THAN "LEAVING THE INITIATIVE TO THE OPPOSITE SIDE AND THUS BEING DEPRIVED OF ITS ADVANTAGES." HOWEVER, HE SAID, "TURKEY, AWARE OF THE COUNTRY'S RESPONSIBILITY WITHIN THE REGION'S DELICATE BALANCE, WILL NOT FOLLOW AN ADVENTURIST POLICY." TURKEY WILL GIVE IMPORTANCE TO CLOSE RELATIONS WITH THE COUNTRIES OF THE REGION AND WILL ACT "NOT AS A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE WEST, BUT AS A COUNTRY OF THIS REGION" IN ARRANGING ITS RELATIONS WITH WEST AND EAST.

3. RELATIONS WITH GREECE. OKCUN SAID THAT THE AEGEAN PROBLEM IS MORE IMPORTANT TO TURKISH-GREEK RELATIONS THAN CYPRUS, AND SAID THAT GREECE, BY GIVING MORE IMPORTANCE TO CYPRUS, UNCLASSIFIED

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WAS EVADING DISCUSSIONS OF THE AEGEAN QUESTION. NOTING THAT GREECE HAS CREATED A DE FACTO SITUATION IN THE AEGEAN WHICH IS "BAD IN THE EXTREME" FOR TURKEY'S INTERESTS, OKCUN SAID THAT THE GOT WOULD WORK TO HAVE EACH OF THE ELEMENTS OF THE AEGEAN DISPUTE TAKEN UP "IN ONE PACKAGE, IN A FASHION IN WHICH EACH OF THEM WILL POSITIVELY AFFECT THE OTHER".

4. NEED FOR SUMMIT. OKCUN SAID, "THE GOVERNMENT BELIEVES THAT A SOLUTION TO TURKISH-GREEK PROBLEMS CANNOT BE FOUND THROUGH TALKS AT A TECHNICAL LEVEL. BECAUSE OF THIS, THE PRIME MINISTER PROPOSED A SUMMIT MEETING TO THE GREEK PRIME MINISTER. WE SEE NO BASIC CONFLICT BETWEEN THE NATIONAL INTERESTS OF TURKEY AND GREECE."

5. CYPRUS. OKCUN REPEATED THAT, WHILE CYPRUS AND THE AEGEAN ARE FUNDAMENTALLY DIFFERENT ISSUES, "THERE IS BENEFIT IN TAKING UP THIS PROBLEM (CYPRUS) AND TURKISH-GREEK DISAGREEMENTS SEPARATELY BUT SIMULTANEOUSLY." RESPONSIBILITY FOR A CYPRUS SETTLEMENT RESTS WITH THE TWO CYPRIOT COMMUNITIES, BUT TURKEY AND GREECE HAVE A POLITICAL, LEGAL, AND MORAL RESPONSIBILITY TOWARD THOSE COMMUNITIES. NOTING THAT SOME MEMBERS OF THE BUDGET COMMITTEE HAD ASKED WHETHER TURKEY

INTENDED TO START THE CYPRUS TALKS WITH CONCRETE PROPOSALS
AND CONTINUE MAKING CONCESSIONS THROUGHOUT THE BARGAINING,
OKCUN SAID, "TURKEY IS A NATION WHICH DISLIKES BARGAINING;
FOR THIS REASON, TURKEY WILL GO TO THE TABLE WITH CATEGORICAL
RESOLUTION AND, TAKING UP ALL ASPECTS OF THE CYPRUS PROBLEM
AT ONCE, WILL SEEK A SOLUTION." OKCUN SAID THAT THE GOT
CONTINUES TO SUPPORT THE PRINCIPLE, ANNOUNCED BY ECEVIT
IN 1974, THAT THE LINE DIVIDING THE AREAS CONTROLLED
BY THE TWO COMMUNITIES' ADMINISTRATIONS COULD BE DISCUSSED
WITHIN REASONABLE LIMITS. HOWEVER, IN THE INTERVENING
THREE AND ONE-HALF YEARS THERE HAVE BEEN VOLUNTARY MASS
MOVEMENTS OF TURKISH CYPRIOTS TO THE NORTH AND GREEK CYPRIOTS
TO THE SOUTH, AND THERE COULD BE NO QUESTION OF UPROOTING
"ONE-THIRD OF THE CITIZENS OF THE FEDERAL STATE WHICH
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IS TO BE ESTABLISHED" AND MAKING THEM MIGRANTS AGAIN.

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USEEC, USOECD

6. RELATIONS WITH THE US. THE US ARMS EMBARGO, BESIDES
BEGINNING THE CURRENT STALEMATE IN TURKISH-AMERICAN RELATIONS,
HAS DAMAGED NOT ONLY TURKEY'S NATIONAL SECURITY BUT ITS ECONOMY
AS WELL. BECAUSE OF THIS, SAID OKCUN, THE GOT INVITED SECRETARY
VANCE TO ANKARA FOR TALKS AND EXPRESSED THE IMPORTANCE IT
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ATTACHES TO IMPROVING RELATIONS. THE SECRETARY WAS TOLD,
HOWEVER, THAT IMPROVEMENT OF RELATIONS REQUIRES THAT THE US
KEEP AN EQUAL DISTANCE FROM TURKEY AND GREECE IN DISPUTES
BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES. "FROM THIS STANDPOINT, WE TOUCHED
ON THE IMPORTANCE OF URGENTLY LIFTING THE EMBARGO BEFORE
EVERYTHING ELSE. ALSO, WE SPOKE OF THE FACT THAT, ESPECIALLY
FROM THE STANDPOINT OF DEFENSE AID, THE DEFENSE COOPERATION
AGREEMENT (DCA) DOES NOT SATISFY CURRENT REQUIREMENTS AND
OF THE RESULTANT NEED FOR INCREASING AID AND FOR EXAMINING
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT POSSIBILITIES."

7. NATO. OKCUN SAID THAT TURKEY HAS UNDERTAKEN AN IMPORTANT
AND DIFFICULT TASK WITH ITS NATO MEMBERSHIP, AND THAT, IN
ORDER TO FULFILL THIS, "TURKEY SHOULD BE EXTENDED THE
NECESSARY UNDERSTANDING AND SUPPORT BY ITS ALLIES. THE
DEGREE AND EFFICACY OF TURKEY'S CONTRIBUTION TO THE
STABILITY OF THE REGION WILL BE COMMENSURATE WITH THE
UNDERSTANDING AND THE POLITICAL AND MILITARY SUPPORT
IT RECEIVES. TURKEY CANNOT BE EXPECTED TO JEOPARDIZE ITS
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN FULFILLING ITS ALLIANCE COMMITMENTS."
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Message Attributes

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